



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: March 22, 2004 Signature:

Harvey L. Cohen

Docket No.: SCHERING 3.0-121
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of :
Saksena et al. :
Application No.: 09/909,012 : Group Art Unit: 1653
Filed: July 19, 2001 : Examiner: R. B. Mondesi
For: NOVEL PEPTIDES AS NS3-SERINE :
PROTEASE INHIBITORS OF :
HEPATITIS C VIRUS :
:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed October 1, 2003, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks. A petition for extension of time accompanies this amendment; consequently, this amendment is timely.